

## The Sun

FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 1888.

## Throw Out the Mills Bill!

The Secretary of the Treasury now estimates that the surplus will amount to \$155,000,000 on the first day of next July. This is \$15,000,000 more than the estimate upon which Mr. Cleveland based his advice to Congress. There are fifteen million additional reasons for the prompt adoption of an effective measure of tax reduction.

Why, the condition of the streets of New York on Tuesday morning was not more abnormal than that of the Treasury vaults. They are clogged with money. The channels of income are congested. The drifts of gold and silver are piling higher and higher as each week brings a new accumulation of unutilized wealth upon the backs of the people by unnecessary taxation.

Mr. Mills's bill, now being painfully considered paragraph by paragraph in the House Committee on Ways and Means, proposes to take \$25,000,000 from the internal revenue and \$25,000,000 from the customs revenue by means of additions to the free list—let us say \$50,000,000 altogether. That much would be a sure reduction. The \$20,000,000 or more which Mr. Mills expects to shave off by lowering the duties on certain imported articles is a dream of hope rather than a mathematical certainty. Lowering the duties may increase instead of decreasing revenues. The result of this part of Mr. Mills's scheme is problematical, and Mr. Mills knows this to be the truth.

Mr. Randall's tariff bill, also before the Committee on Ways and Means for consideration, repeals internal revenue taxation to the amount of \$65,000,000 or \$70,000,000 annually, and revises the customs tariff in a manner designed to decrease the revenue from that source by about \$25,000,000.

The difference between the two bills, therefore, is this: The Mills bill aims to reduce the revenue by about \$75,000,000, of which perhaps \$48,000,000 is an assured reduction, guaranteed by the nature of the changes proposed. The Randall bill aims to reduce the annual revenue by about \$95,000,000, of which perhaps \$70,000,000 is a certain reduction, guaranteed by the character of the changes proposed. The minor part of the reduction promised by the Mills bill, and the major part of the reduction promised by the Randall bill, affect those taxes which ought in the nature of things to go first, namely, the excise or emergency taxes, levied directly upon domestic industries and affording no protection, direct or incidental, to the interests of American producers or manufacturers.

This comparison makes it clear at a glance that without reference to any theory of free trade or protection, and without reference to any political economy, Mr. Randall's bill is far more effective measure of surplus reduction. The reduction is greater, the reduction is surer, the method of reduction is simpler, while the disturbance to established interests would be incomparably less.

Why, then, should not the Committee on Ways and Means, if they are honest and earnest in their desire to carry out the main recommendation in the President's message, discard the Mills bill altogether, and devote their time and intellect to the perfection of the better of the two plans of practical surplus reduction now before them?

We are quite sure that no pride of authorship, no theoretical bias, and above all, no foolish personal rivalry, ought to prevent either Mr. Mills or the President from giving hearty acquiescence to such a change in the line of the committee's operations.

To assume the contrary is to assume that Mr. Mills and President Cleveland are unworthy to be party leaders.

## France and the New Emperor.

It is well that at the obsequies of her illustrious conqueror France should be represented. By a magnificent valdation to the dead she confirms the good will of the living sovereign and touches the heart of Germany. When we bear in mind that one of the first messages of friendship sent from San Remo after Kaiser William's death was addressed to President Carnot, we cannot but think the French republic more deeply interested than any other State in the prolongation of the life of the new Emperor.

It is true that the Emperor Frederick, large minded, generous, and peaceful as he is believed to be, was above all a patriot, and that he never will voluntarily relinquish the two provinces which in 1871 were incorporated in the German fatherland. But must France condemn her thrifty and hard-working children to bear for generations the load of a colossal military establishment, and stand prepared to jeopard her national existence for the dim prospect of regaining Alsace and a section of Lorraine? Is the recovery of the lost territory really essential to her dignity and prosperity, to her self-respect and her retention of a place of honor among the great powers of Europe?

Let us see what light is thrown by history upon such questions. The France of Francis I. included neither Alsace nor Lorraine, nor the Bretonnais, nor Avignon and Orange, nor the Three Bishoprics, nor much of what is now French Flanders and Artois; nor, nor even Orleans town. Nevertheless, she held her own against the vast dominions of CHARLES V., which, relatively, constituted a far mightier empire than that reared by Bismarck. So, too, under Louis XIV. France possessed the hegemony of Europe, although the whole of Alsace was not acquired until nearly forty years after he had personally taken up the ruins of government, and although the duchy of Lorraine was not gained till near the close of the reign of his great-grandson, or only a little more than a century ago.

There may be other and more congenial fields for French expansion than in Alsace, whose inhabitants never learned to use the French tongue with correctness or with fluency. There, for instance, are the French-speaking cantons of Switzerland and the French-speaking provinces of Belgium, which indeed were parts of France under Napoleon I. Who can say that France has not more to win by the friendship and fellowship of Germany than by persisting in her repellent implacable attitude? And who, recalling the amazing historical transformations in French policy, may for instance, the abrupt alliance with Austria in 1815 after more than two centuries of warfare—can regard as impossible another sudden revolution in her foreign relations?

A combination of this sort is believed to have been projected by M. Jules Ferry, and the scheme has since shared the discredit of its advocate. But it might be looked upon more favorably were Frenchmen once convinced that the ruler of Germany was their sincere well-wisher, and would gladly help them to the irrevocable surrender of Metz and Strasbourg. Unquestionably it would be a blessing to the Continent could France and Germany be linked by the bonds of common interest and mutual good will. Nor would

such a change be more welcome to any of the inhabitants of Europe than to the millions of frugal, toiling peasants who form the bone and sinew of the French nation. But, however acceptable to Frenchmen may be the kindly overture of the new Emperor, it is their misfortune that they cannot build upon it hopes of stable reconciliation and of joint advancement. The concord of France and Germany remains a dream, for the high-minded sovereign, who might have effected it, is doomed. What casts a deeper shadow on the outlook is the fact that the successor of an Emperor already moribund is deemed of all men least likely to be swayed by humanitarian and chivalrous motives.

## Schools for the Indians.

The passage by the Senate of the bill to provide for the education of Indian children, and its prospective enactment by the House, open new prospects for the rising generation of the aborigines. The bill makes it the duty of the Secretary of the Interior to establish, under proper regulations, an industrial boarding school on every reservation which contains 500 or more adult Indians. But it must be understood that the Government already has a very large school establishment for the Indians. At the last annual returns to the Indian Bureau there were 69 boarding schools, with a capacity of 5,055 pupils, an enrollment of 5,484, and an average attendance of 4,111, costing \$548,787. There were also 90 day schools, with a capacity of 3,135 pupils, an enrollment of 3,115, and an average attendance of 1,866, costing \$30,779. Then there were eight industrial training schools, five of them directly managed by the bureau, and the eight having an aggregate capacity of 2,005 pupils, an enrollment of 2,137, and an average attendance of 1,628, costing the Government \$218,538. Besides all these, there were conducted under contract with the Indian Bureau, mainly by religious organizations, 41 boarding and 30 day schools, the former having an average attendance of 3,081 pupils, and costing the Government \$238,445, and the latter having an average of 604 pupils, and costing \$10,777.

Putting all these statistics together, we have an aggregate of 227 schools, with a capacity of 13,765 pupils, an enrollment of 14,383, and an average attendance of 10,620. On these schools the Government expended during the last fiscal year \$1,166,028.57, besides the expenditures for construction and repairs of buildings, the transportation of pupils, and sundry miscellaneous items. The Government is by no means neglecting this part of its duty toward the red men. It also helps support an Indian pupil at Howard University, another at Wayland Seminary, a third in the Medical Department of Pennsylvania University, a fourth at the Philadelphia Woman's Medical College, and a fifth at the Lincoln Institute of Chester. There are also Indian schools supported by religious societies, while the foregoing enumeration does not include the schools maintained by the five civilized tribes in the Indian Territory and those of the New York Indians.

Nevertheless, the statistics of population show that with all these schools combined are insufficient enough for educating all the Indian children. The present measure is one contemplating compulsory education, so that if it is enacted, the statistics of attendance will show a very great increase during the next few years. The remarkable advance made during the last half a dozen years is told by the annual figures. The boarding schools which in 1882 numbered 71, with an average attendance of 4,755, had increased in 1887 to 117, with an average attendance of 8,020; while the day schools increased in the same period from 94 to 110, and their average attendance from 1,811 to 2,900.

Commenting on these statistics in his last annual report, Commissioner Atkins declares that "the Indian child, be educated with the white or the colored man," and that the average annual cost decreases from year to year. This cost last year for each pupil in a Government boarding school was \$170; in a contract boarding school, \$130; in a Government day school, \$53; in a contract day school, \$30. It must not be inferred that the contract schools are the cheaper. The difference is due to the fact that the private societies supply the deficiencies in the latter from their own funds. There would be more pupils attending these schools but for the limits fixed by law for the cost of the buildings. The maximum allowed for erecting a day school building is \$600. In many localities this is entirely insufficient. Consequently, the materials must be hauled a long distance, while labor is also hard to procure, even a building for only sixty pupils cannot be put up for that sum. Congress, which is so extravagant in appropriations for some public buildings, is frugal in this important matter. Quite as insufficient sometimes, for the same causes, is the maximum of \$10,000 allowed for a boarding school building, since this requires dormitories as well as school rooms, and includes the furniture. Hence, as the Indian Commissioner remarks in his report, children are ready to attend on no fewer than four reservations are kept out of school, because no buildings within the \$10,000 limit could be obtained, after wide advertising, for erecting the necessary buildings.

The hopes of the Indian race are largely centered in the education of the young. Experience has shown it to be possible to bring them up with new ideas and ambitions. Even as a measure of wise economy in preparing the red men for citizenship, and putting an end to costly wars, this measure has peculiar claims upon the consideration of Congress.

## Mayor Hewitt and the Aldermen.

On Wednesday the Board of Aldermen decided, by a vote of seventeen to one, to oppose certain bills favored by Mayor Hewitt and now in various stages of consideration before the Legislature. A committee was appointed to present and represent the opposition of the Aldermen to these bills, among which are the Rapid Transit bill, the bill giving the Commissioner of Public Works the power to repave streets without authority from the Board of Aldermen, and the bill providing that Police Justices shall be lawyers and members of the bar.

These are bills in regard to which public opinion evidently varies. They have the strongest kind of support, however, in the fact that they are favored by Mayor Hewitt, whose devotion to the interests of this town, or what he believes to be those interests, is as great as his courage and intelligence are undoubted.

The members of the Board of Aldermen are also active in their desire for the prosperity of the metropolis; but in opposing the bills proposed or advocated by the Mayor they seem rather anxious lest the remaining powers of the Board of Aldermen should be impaired or removed than actuated by pure regard for the best government of New York city by New York city. We say this with reference to the merits of the bills which the Mayor supports and the Aldermen reject. And we say that the Aldermen would occupy a more dignified position if they were to go to Albany as the defenders

of the interests of the city, and not the anxious assertors of their own functions. The Mayor has vetoed their bills in some regards, and so they want to veto his in others. The Board of Aldermen will not increase its importance in this community by opposing the Mayor for the sake of getting square with him. Its members are, of course, fully entitled to their own opinion about public measures, and that opinion may be correct; but when it is mixed up with personal retaliation or corporate self-satisfaction, the people may not care so much for it as the Aldermen do. There have been Mayors of New York, against whom the Aldermen were right in maintaining their opinion, and if they think they are right as against Mayor Hewitt, why, all right. But the mere effect, upon the importance of the Board of Aldermen, of certain measures now before the Legislature is not, or ought not to be, a controlling reason why those measures should be rejected. The Board of Aldermen is a useful body, but we suppose that this city would be able to exist in comfort and prosperity even if the Board of Aldermen were not. And as far as legislation at Albany or at the City Hall is concerned, all that the people want is that it should be for the general benefit. They are not interested in controversies between the Mayor and Aldermen or in the disposition of the latter to magnify their office.

## The Sun's Progress.

The demand for *The Sun* this week, over and above the heavy morning order, is greater than ever before in *The Sun*'s history. Neither great political events nor great disasters ever brought about such an extra demand as has prevailed during the last few days for *The Sun*'s unparalleled blizzard editions.

It may be added, and our friends will learn it with pleasure, that *The Sun* Sunday reached on last Sunday and the preceding Sunday the largest sales that it has ever enjoyed, without even the exception of a single day, since it was first established. The orders received so far for the edition of next Sunday indicate a still more notable increase, and we shall certainly receive even heavier accessions as fast as the mails are received.

*The Sunday Sun*, however, is probably the most remarkable newspaper that modern journalism has yet produced, and it is therefore not so strange as it otherwise might appear, that it should enjoy such a prosperous and continuous growth.

That sturdy old soldier and inexorable military critic, Gen. WILLIAM F. SMITH, contributed to the *North American Review* for February a valuable readable article, under the title of "The Genius of Battle." An anonymous writer contributes, under the same title, an article to the March number of the *Review*, the purport of which is to show that SMITH's purpose was to belittle Grant and Sherman.

It was at one time averred that Mr. HIRSH PRIMAN, who untwisted the mortal coil of that famous Kentucky magistrate, Judge CHAS. TOLLEVER, had gone over the range. He is not dead, however, and is reported, but merely playing an hallucinatory and a howling opitote with delirium tremens. This conclusion, it would be a feather in the Brother's cap to arrest and bring to punishment the villain who sought to blacken their reputation at Galesburg.

We present our compliments to the reporters of *The Sun*, individually and collectively, and renew the assurance of our most distinguished consideration. It was a tremendous blizzard, and they were equal to the event.

There will not be the slightest need of the services of the Brooklyn police to-morrow in preventing a collision between the two rival branches of the Ancient Order of Hibernians which are to march in procession. The procession is to be held in the city, and the police will be on hand to see that the march is conducted in a peaceful and orderly manner.

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We are grateful to the philanthropists of Boston who were ready, in the early part of the week, to take means of relieving us from the famine with which they had heard we were threatened. The apprehensions which they entertained had no existence in this city, which, in fact, was well supplied with patience and provisions. The sympathetic chord appears to have been touched in our favor in many of the distant places from which we have begun to procure our regular news. We appreciate the spirit of these patriots, all of whom are evidently in love with New York, which is ever ready to reciprocate good deeds and fraternal emotions.

Some of our fellow citizens ought to put their experiences of the blizzard in the shape of affidavits. Even a man's own children yet unborn will be apt to suspect that pop is drawing the long bow when, in the far-off hereafter, he comes up on the blizzard of 1888 in New York in the year 1888. Let him take the time by the forelock and swear to the facts while yet they are fresh in his mind.

A good many of our contemporaries in different parts of the country are commenting with interest on the blizzard of 1888, and are sharing in the joint stock company, which publishes *The Sun*, sold the other day at a handsome advance on their original cost. As the *Macdonald Sunday Times* remarks, "this does not look as though *The Sun* was dead or in decay."

It does not indeed, and for the last quarter of a century this paper has never been either the one or the other. Never has it been more alive than now, and never has its prosperity been so solid or its future so encouraging to the friends of genuine, Democratic, American journalism. We renew to the *Macdonald Sunday Times* the assurance of our most distinguished consideration, and long may it wave.

The thousands of Italian snow cleaners at work this week have shown up to their credit. They are short in stature, but very hardy. They work steadily, though not rapidly, all the day long. They handle snow with the simple tools of their labor. They do not need much boasting. They are patient and sober. In short, they are excellent workmen, who have honestly earned all that they have been paid for their services to the city.

We see by the exchanges that are now reaching us from various parts of the country, how the papers of the outlying United States missed New York during the days of its incarceration. They look as though they had been sent out from the fountains of thought and intelligence and news and philosophy and humor. Now again they can enjoy the happy days when they draw their supplies from the mails that reach them from the metropolis of mind and enterprise.

Under a blizzard of newspaper office snowed under by an unexpected publication of news and blizzard and the systematic work of an office with means at its disposal to meet any emergency, and a staff trained to use those means to the best advantage, is as wide as the difference between doing a thing and not doing it.

We presume that the anti-Mongolian Californians are satisfied with the prospect of the Senate's approval of the new treaty with the Chinese Emperor for the stoppage of emigration from his dominions to this country. The Chinese Government has for some years favored the policy laid down in the treaty, and has recently striven to enforce it, while at the same time desiring that we should prohibit its subjects from landing on our shores. After the confirmation of the treaty by Congress will doubtless adopt some measure to prevent the incoming of Chinese who take ship at the British port of Hong Kong. Thus the Chinese question will be closed, and the anti-Chinese agitators will find relief.

The syndicate of journals leagueed with *The Sun* for the mutual communication of cable despatches and other special news is evidently a big thing and a growing one. It includes Boston, New York, Pittsburgh, Chicago, St. Louis, and the whole western West, with several counties yet to be heard from.

A little snowbird from the Twin Cities whispers that the Hon. JONATHAN DOWNEY is a candidate for the seat in the Senate now occupied by the Hon. DWIGHT M. SARGENT. There are a good many disputed passages in the great life of Mr. Downey, and so it is perhaps vain to speculate upon what a figure he would be in the Senate chamber, and whether he would be a cipher. For our own part, we should like to see him there for the purpose, if no other, of verifying our own suspicion that the *Congressional Record* is written, though not printed, by the Hon. ELMER W. BLAIR of New Hampshire. The intrinsic evidence afforded by the enormous dulness of that publication is of itself almost convincing proof of our theory; but it would be interesting to have an ingenious cryptologist like Mr. DORRIS examine the *Record* and BLAIR.

The managers of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers should have got ahead of the managers of the Burlington Railroad Company in offering a reward for the arrest of the parties who on Tuesday last tried to damage a locomotive and then proceeded to switch engine at Galesburg, Ill. The Brotherhood have been anxious to get hold of any man who should attempt to injure the company's property or interfere with the engineers who took the places vacated by the Brotherhood's members. It would be a feather in the Brotherhood's cap to arrest and bring to punishment the villain who sought to blacken their reputation at Galesburg.

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How beautiful both *Suns* looked yesterday morning when they shone over the town, one of them diffusing warmth and the other illuminating light and cheer. Happy New York, happy under the rays of two *Suns*!

Judging from the humorous condolences sent to blizzard-buffed New York by certain friends of Minnesota and Dakota, some of the people of the Northwest are as fresh as its winter climate.

A Carolina Impression of Mr. Cleveland.

From the Raleigh Observer.

When the President was at Weldon a large crowd of people gathered to see him. A lady, who, tall and lean, took her stand in front of the President, and as he shook his hand, said: "Well, and are you the President?"

"Yes," said Mr. Cleveland, "I am the President."

"Well, I have voted for many a President, but never as before. And as he stood looking at him all eyes were turned to him. He was a large, manly man, and he was a whopper, in fact. Whereupon the President smiled, and Mr. Cleveland, who was near by, laughed until he cried.

The New Caps.

From the London Court Journal.

The caps worn by Sarah Bernhardt in *Le Favorit* have been a great success. They are made of velvet, and are very elegant. They are worn with a high collar, and are very comfortable. They are very popular, and are worn by many of the ladies of the court.

## PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS.

## A New Machine Preparing for the Distribution of Campaign Literature.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—The machine is now getting into the streets of the nation. Every Government official in this section of the country has received the following circular:

Lawrence G. Brown, Chairman.

Henry L. Bacon, Treasurer.

Wm. W. Bennett, Secretary.

Bureau of Political Information.

Dear Sir: The object of this organization is to aid in the distribution of campaign literature.

It is the duty of every citizen to aid in the distribution of campaign literature.

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## A MILLION FOR THE MILITIA.

## Efforts to Increase the Annual Appropriation for the Militia.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—Although the last Congress doubled the old appropriation made each year for the militia, there is thought to be some prospect of securing a further increase during the present session. The argument is that, supposing the amount of \$200,000, originally provided by the act of April 23, 1868, to have been at least a proper one, not less than a million should be appropriated now. Accordingly a bill has been introduced into the House for making the annual appropriation hereafter \$1,000,000.

The population of the country eight years ago was only 8,000,000; now it is probably seven times as much. The settled area of the country has enormously increased since that time, while the wealth to be protected and the resources have increased far more in proportion than the population. If we should compare the total annual Government expenditures of that period, it would be found that \$1,000,000 would be a very small proportion to the total outlays of the Government to-day.

So on every ground it is thought that the annual appropriation of \$1,000,000 can be defended more especially as there is now a Treasury surplus to deal with. Besides, this sum was the one originally fixed by the National Guard Association and other militia organizations, and it was a desired legislation. It was subsequently increased to \$2,000,000, and then to \$3,000,000, and now it is \$4,000,000. It is a very small sum for the protection of the country, and it is a very small sum for the protection of the country.

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